

Welcome to the
KNIGHTS' SUCCESS LAB
Before and After School Program

EVALUATION REPORT
SCHOOL YEAR 2022-2023



Milliken Elementary School
Milliken, Colorado

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INTRODUCTION

The Knights' Success Lab (KSL) is a before and after school program that provides enrichment clubs and academic support for all students, with a focus on students with multiple risk-factors at Milliken Elementary School. We provide integrated Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) and Project Based Learning (PBL) enrichment clubs, as well as literacy-based academic support.

We provide before school literacy-focused academic support for students that are performing below grade level. We are proud of this time as we offer personalized support for students needs and not a boxed intervention program. We intentionally serve around 40 students every morning. As part of our mornings, we offer a general session to support the love of reading for students called Read-A-Latte. In our first two years of the grant, we have seen students that participate show tremendous growth on formative and summative assessments.

In addition, we provide robust enrichment opportunities in a club-based format. Our STEM clubs explore topics like robotics, drones, architecture, rocketry, flight and aerodynamics, art, culinary science, simple machines, STEM Challenges, and more. We also offer PBL type clubs exploring student voice through passion projects, outdoor game creation, and more. We incorporate partnerships to provide a Girls on the Run Club and a leadership club for at-risk students. These opportunities allowed KSL to involve more of our community and provide students with experience in areas which feed into our district Career and Technical Education Pathways.

Part of our mission includes family engagement, to that end the Knights' Success Lab hosts family celebrations throughout the year. This is a time for students to showcase their learning during clubs and be recognized for their positive behavior. The family celebrations have been wildly successful and has helped increase family engagement not only for the Knights' Success Lab but toward the school day as well.

The final piece of the Knights' Success Lab programming is our Summer Enrichment Camp. During the required 60 hours of summer programming by the 21st Century Grant, students are given opportunities to engage in various project based learning opportunities in a summer camp format. The amazing summer staff have guided students through projects like planning, designing, and building a mini-golf course; culinary science; creating an ice cream business; and so much more. We end summer camp with a family celebration to share the amazing projects students created and to honor students who displayed great character during camp.

For the 2022-2023 school year, we served 142 Milliken Elementary students during the school year, with 50 of those students attending 75 hours or more of programming. We served 126 different family members during our family celebration events to wrap up each quarter. We also served 118 students during Summer Enrichment Camp.

I am excited about the future of this program and the value that it brings to students, staff, families, and Milliken Elementary's school community.



MISSION AND VISION

OUR VISION

Our Vision is to unleash the potential of students through enrichment, academic support, and family engagement.

OUR MISSION

The Knight's Success Lab exists to provide enrichment and support opportunities to students and families to improve academic performance, increase engagement in learning, and foster the discovery of future passions so that students experience positive momentum on their journey to their full potential.

THE PBIS PILLARS THE PROGRAM IS BUILT ON ARE THE FOLLOWING:

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Mindset of a Champion



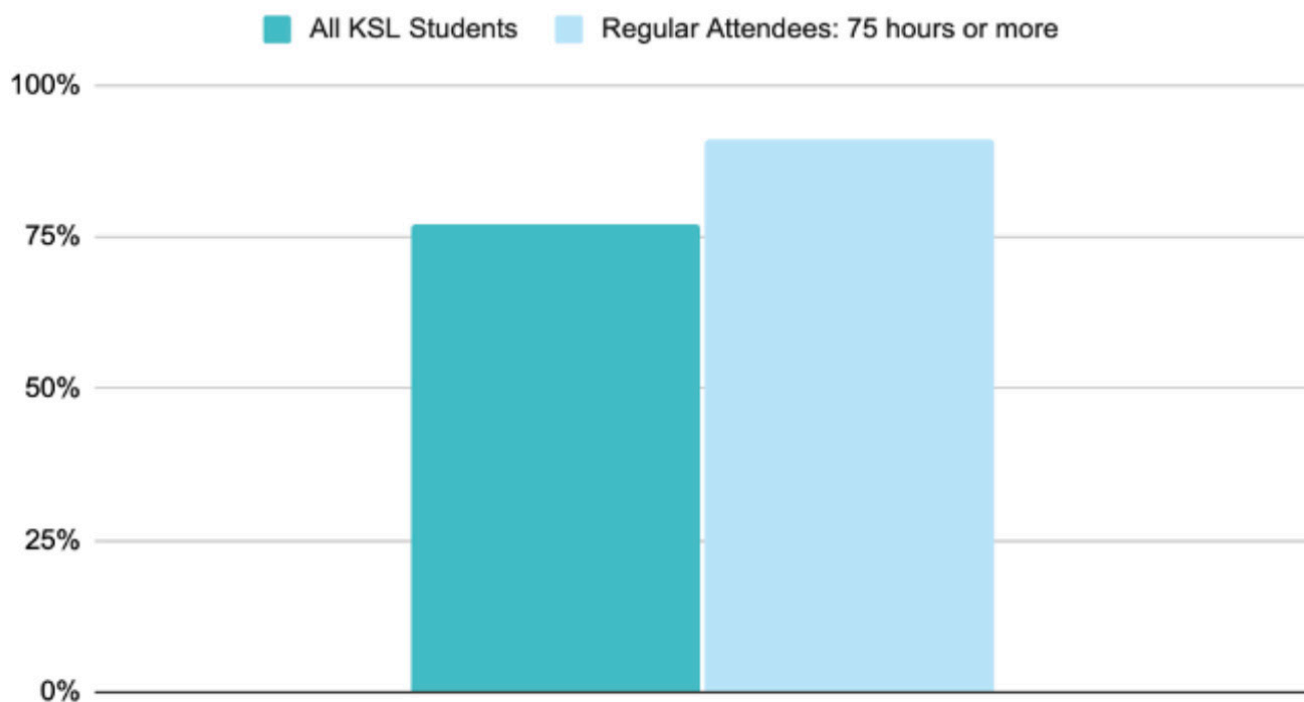
PERFORMANCE MEASURES RESULTS

PM 1 - CORE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

By 2023-24, 75% of regular Knight's Success Lab attendees will demonstrate growth in literacy by increasing their RIT score on NWEA MAP Reading from fall to spring by participating in the digital personalized learning platform and weekly one-to-one conferencing with staff.

This performance measure was met for the second year in a row. According to MAPS Reading data for the 2022-2023 school year of the 50 regular attendees in the Knights' Success Lab, 41 students showed growth. 82% of regular attendees to KSL showed growth on their NWEA MAPS reading assessment.

NWEA RIT Reading Growth



PM 2 - ESSENTIAL SKILLS/EDUCATIONAL ENRICHMENT

By 2023-2024, 80% percent of regular Knight's Success Lab attendees will report that participating in PBL and STEM enrichment helped increase the enjoyment of learning, increase their application of learning, and increase their problem solving skills.

Staff was able to survey 28 regular attendees. About 64% of students reported that participation in the Knights' Success Lab increased their enjoyment of learning at the end of year 2. This is a big improvement from year 1 when we were at 36% of students reporting an increased enjoyment for learning. While we are well on our way to meeting this performance measure, we will continue to adjust for year 3.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES RESULTS

PM 3 - ATTENDANCE

Beginning in Year 2 (Year 1 will establish a baseline) and each consecutive year of the program, attendance for 10% of regular Knight's Success Lab attendees, whose regular attendance rate is below 90%, will improve their school day attendance.

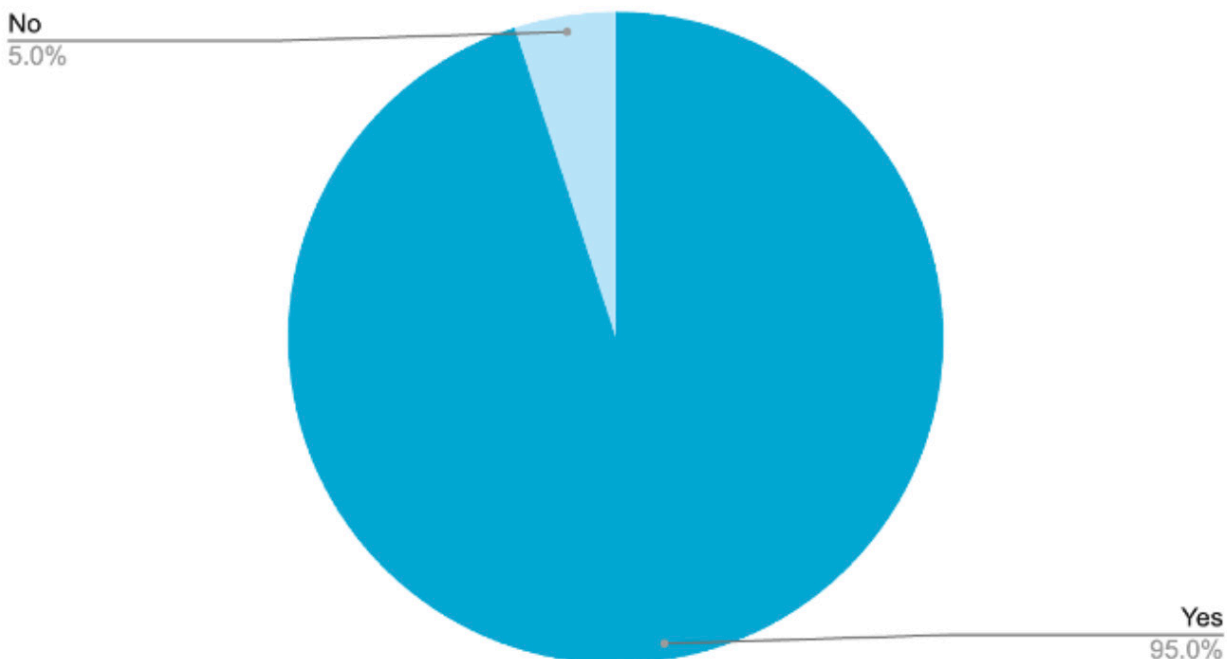
I tracked students that attended 75 hours or more of programming with attendance rates below 90%. Of the 46 regular attendees for 2022-2023, 8 students ended the year with an attendance rate lower than 90%. Of those 8 students, one student showed improvement in their school day attendance. Their attendance rate increased from 71% in year 1 to 85% in year 2. So, we have met that 10% mark for year 2. In the future I hope to see more successes with school day attendance.

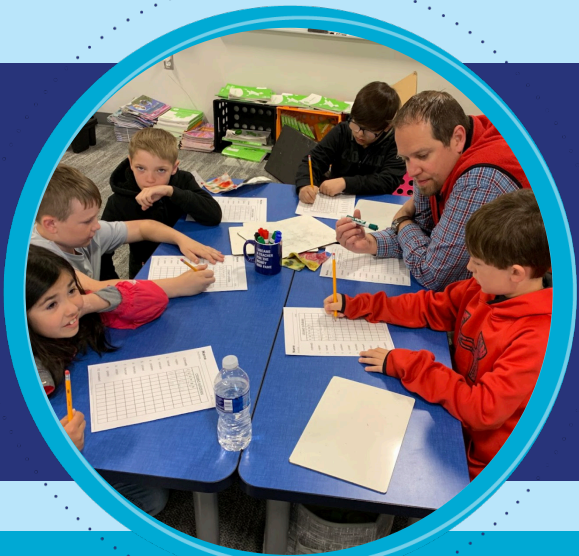
PM 4 - FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

Each year, 80% of parents responding to a survey that participated in the Knight's Success Lab say they increased their capacity to engage in their child's education.

I received 20 responses from our families. This response rate was significantly higher than year 1. I was so excited to see such a positive response to the program as I read through the surveys. Our families love the opportunities the Knights' Success Lab provides kids. 19 out of 20 respondents stated that participation in the program has increased their capacity to engage in their child's learning. In total, that is 95% of families responding to the survey! I cannot be happier about the impact our program is having on students and families.

KSL helped me engage in my child's learning.





3rd through 5th grade students work with Mr. Schleiger on phonics practice during a morning Academic Support session.

Two third grade students enjoyed engaging with VEX robotics. Students built a specific robot for specific challenges throughout this enrichment club during the third quarter.



Kinder through second grade students explore various tools during Summer Enrichment Camp. These ladies are learning about and how to use a power drill. They used these skills in a culminating construction-based project.



Students in Mrs. Taylor's cooking class engage in edible culinary science. Students measured, prepared, and enjoyed their creations. This is STEM at its tastiest!



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

FAMILY CELEBRATIONS

The Knights' Success Lab engages families through our unique family celebrations. Each family celebration is an opportunity to celebrate the hard work of students in KSL, to provide family time, fun, and connection, and to share a meal together. As reflected in the photos below, families love this element of the program. We are able to share what students have been working on, typically through a highlight video like [this one](#)

that was used for our Summer Enrichment Camp. These celebrations have been a valuable connection for our families to the Knights' Success Lab program that I would like to keep moving forward. The results from our family survey this year were overwhelmingly positive. I feel that our family celebrations played a big role in helping families feel connected to the program and engaged in their child's learning.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

A big part of the sustainability of the Knights' Success Lab program will be the community partnerships that we have built and continue to build over the life of the grant. For year two we have doubled our partnerships. One such partnership was our own Girls on the Run and Roosevelt High School. Through the Interact Club, students from RHS signed up to come mentor students and/or support a special event. Typically, they would work with a group of students and complete an activity with them, as well as build relationships, similar to a mentor/mentee relationship. Our KSL students loved hanging out with their high school mentors. It was a great experience for both mentors and mentees. In addition, through Girls on the Run, we have been able to provide programming focused on girls, scholarships for GOTR fees, and compensation for the coaches.

Another valuable partnership has been with the Milliken Community Court. Our alliance with this

organization has enabled us to provide a leadership club (MYCL Jr.) for students who are considered at-risk and who struggled in the areas of behavior, attendance, relationships, or academics. This club is facilitated by Silvia Martinez, who runs a similar club for older youth called MYCL (Milliken Young Community Leaders). Silvia and I worked together to create a MYCL Jr. at Milliken Elementary as part of the enrichment program. We had a successful first round and are looking forward to continuing the club in 2023-2024.

Finally, we have begun developing partnerships with community members as well. For example, a community member facilitated a sewing club. Students designed and sewed a pillowcase from scratch. We are looking at forming a quilting club for the 2023-2024 school year. With these types of partnerships, we are building a sustainable community-based program.



YEAR 2 MONITORING VISIT

OUTCOMES

During the second year of grant implementation, CDE conducts a site-monitoring visit to assess the subgrantee's compliance with grant requirements. As this was the second year of our grant, the program was evaluated through this monitoring visit. In short, the 21st Century grant specialist walked through the seven areas of grant compliance. The seven areas are the following: Program Leadership and Staffing; Program Impact, Students Served, and Program Design; Program Implementation; Evaluation; State Performance Measures; Adequacy of Resources; Fiscal Requirements.

In order to be succinct in this report, I will share the changes that we made based on the feedback from the visit. First, I built out the KSL handbook for staff to include student to teacher ratio, hiring process, pay scale chart, and staff attendance expectations. Second, I created a staff evaluation form that I will use moving forward at the request of CDE. As suggested from CDE, I utilized an evaluation form template

from the Youth-4-Youth website. Third, I created an enrichment club planning sheet so that I can have documentation of each club. This will also serve as a procedure for ordering supplies. Supplies will need to be listed on the planning sheet along with the outcome and goals of the club. Fourth, I built out the job descriptions for the program director, program coordinator, and club facilitator positions. Lastly, we underspent our funds for year 1 beyond the 10% allowed by CDE. This is the area of compliance that we are not able to make adjustments or corrections to make it right. However, I have made changes in the frequency of budget monitoring to help ensure the program does not underspend for implementation year 2 and forward.

At this time, we are awaiting CDE's response to my changes and adjustments to the framework of our programming. Our final status in compliance is unknown at the time this report was prepared.



MOVING FORWARD

2023-2024 ADJUSTMENTS

Based on the Quality Implementation Rubric, I am excited about the growth we have experienced between year 1 and year 2. It is also encouraging to see the areas where we have begun to exceed expectations. One area we are exceeding is in leadership. I am very grateful that we have an involved school principal and district assistant superintendent. Both of these individuals are invested in the Knights' Success Lab and dedicated to collaborating about programming, solving problems, and helping it grow. They have been instrumental in getting our summer program off the ground, including working out kinks with construction and transportation to make it work for as many students as possible. They have also supported our advertising, staffing, and facility needs for summer programming. The building principal has helped work out a plan to include the office staff to help support attendance in the after school program. I am grateful for the support given by building and district leadership.

The Knights' Success Lab also has earned "Exceeding Expectations" in the recruitment of students. I have taken effective steps to improve this area for year 2 of the grant implementation. I have created videos, flyers, and presentations to share with our school community and the broader community. I have utilized our district social media more frequently this year to spread the great things we are doing. I shared presentations with students to talk more about the Knights' Success Lab, what we offer, and how we can help them and engage with them. I have done a better job of championing our program and identifying others who are willing to champion it as well. Ultimately, I have been able to hire

great coordinators and staff who believe in the work and enjoy being a part of it.

One area that will be a focus for improvement is growing the number of students reaching the regular attendance mark. The KSL team have done a great job of recruiting students. We have far exceeded the number of students I thought would quantify a healthy program. However, we are not having enough students meet the 75 hours for regular attendance. We are seeing that interest is not the issue. Our clubs and academic support sessions are filling up every quarter. What we are seeing is that students and families are not committing to regular attendance. Therefore, the MES principal and KSL program director feel that what we need is a bit of accountability for students and families. So, we will be utilizing the Milliken Elementary office staff to call families of students not in attendance that day to remind them of their club and commitment. We feel that this will add some accountability and increase the number of students that meet the regular attendance criteria.

Another area will be in utilizing and developing partnerships to ease the load of school staff to provide enrichment clubs. Continuing with the partnerships in place, we are looking to add other partnerships that can provide quality programming. These kinds of partnerships typically come with a cost; however, we will continue to work in year 3 to find "sweet spot" partnerships that are little to no cost to support sustainability of the program.



CONCLUSION

I am proud of the Knights' Success Lab and what we have accomplished during year two of our 21st Century Grant. We are grateful for the opportunity to have the funds to create and develop a program like this for the good of the students at MES and their families. I am also grateful for the staff at MES that actively support the vision of the program and see the value it can bring to their students. In my opinion, the future is bright for the Knights' Success Lab.

